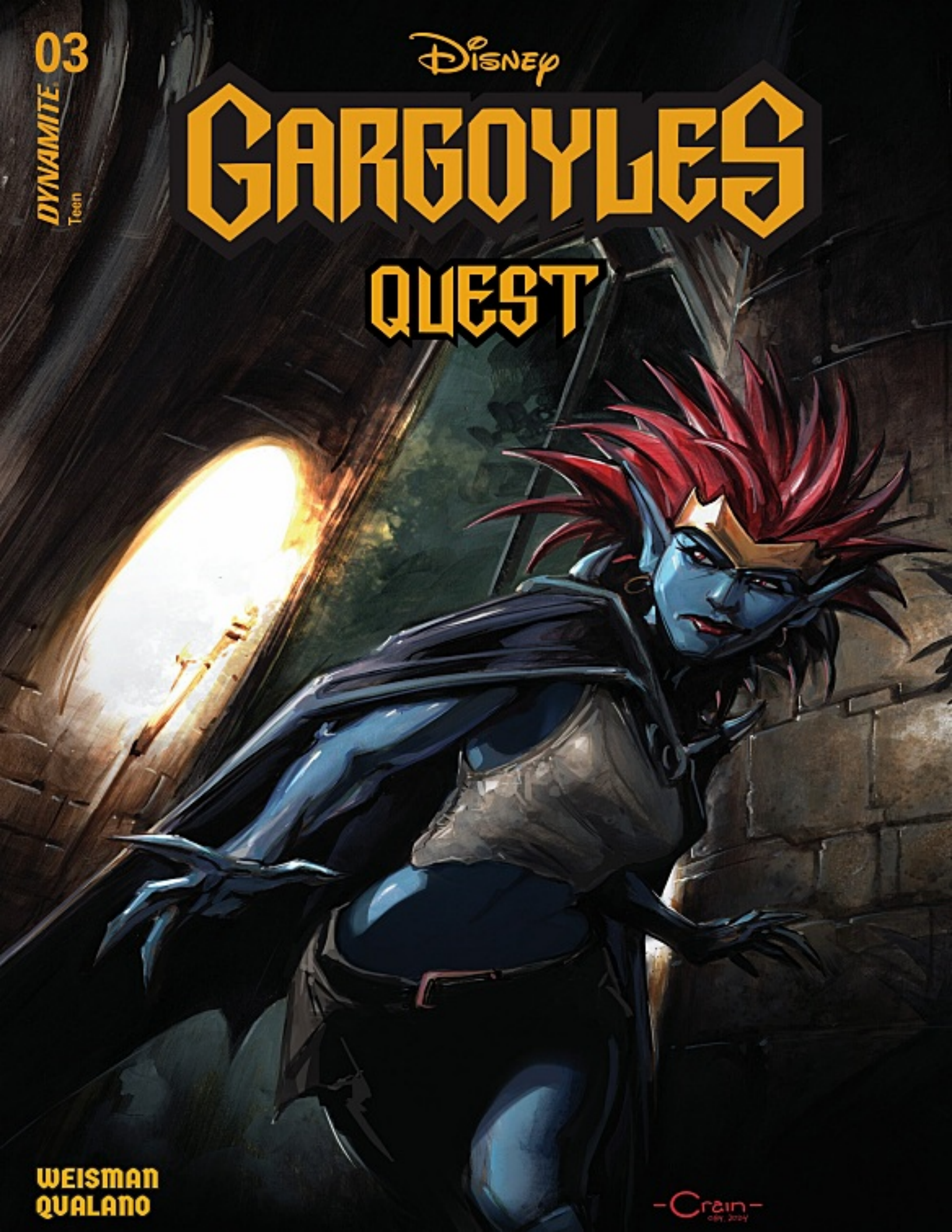
03
DYNAMITE
Teen
Disney
GARGOYLES
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WEISMAN
QUALANO
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03
DISNEY
DYNAMITE
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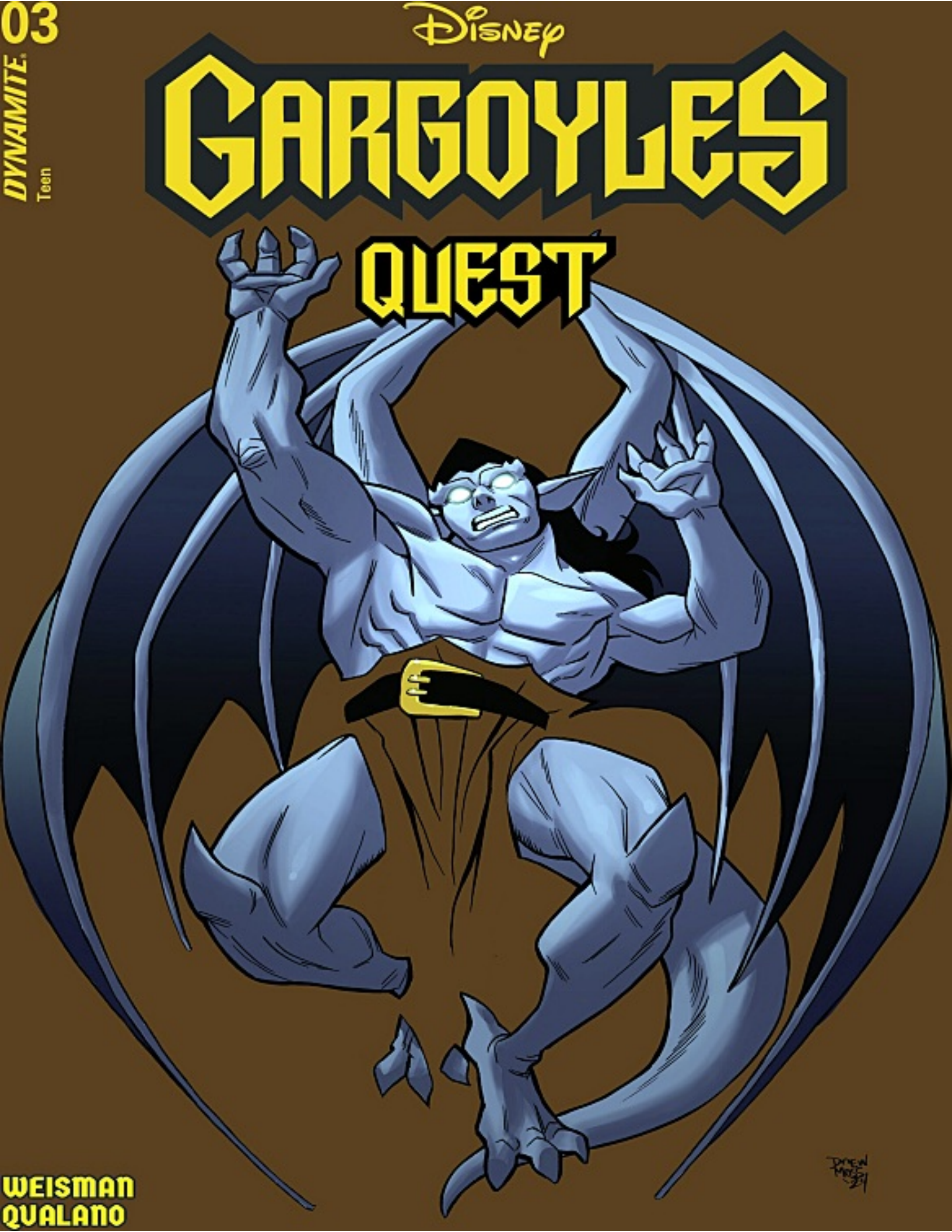
GARGOYLES
QUEST
WEISMAN
QUALANO


03
DYNAMITE
Teen
Disney
GARGOYLES
QUEST
WEISMAN
QUALANO

Disney

GARGOYLES

QUEST

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DYNAMITE

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MANHATTAN.
JULY 20, 1997.
THE ENEMY BEFORE US IS NAUGHT BUT STEEL AND CIRCUITRY!
THEN THERE IS NO NEED TO TEMPER OUR RIGHTEOUS FURY!
ATTACK!!
Disney
GARGOYLES
QUEST
CHAPTER THREE:
ACQUISITIONS
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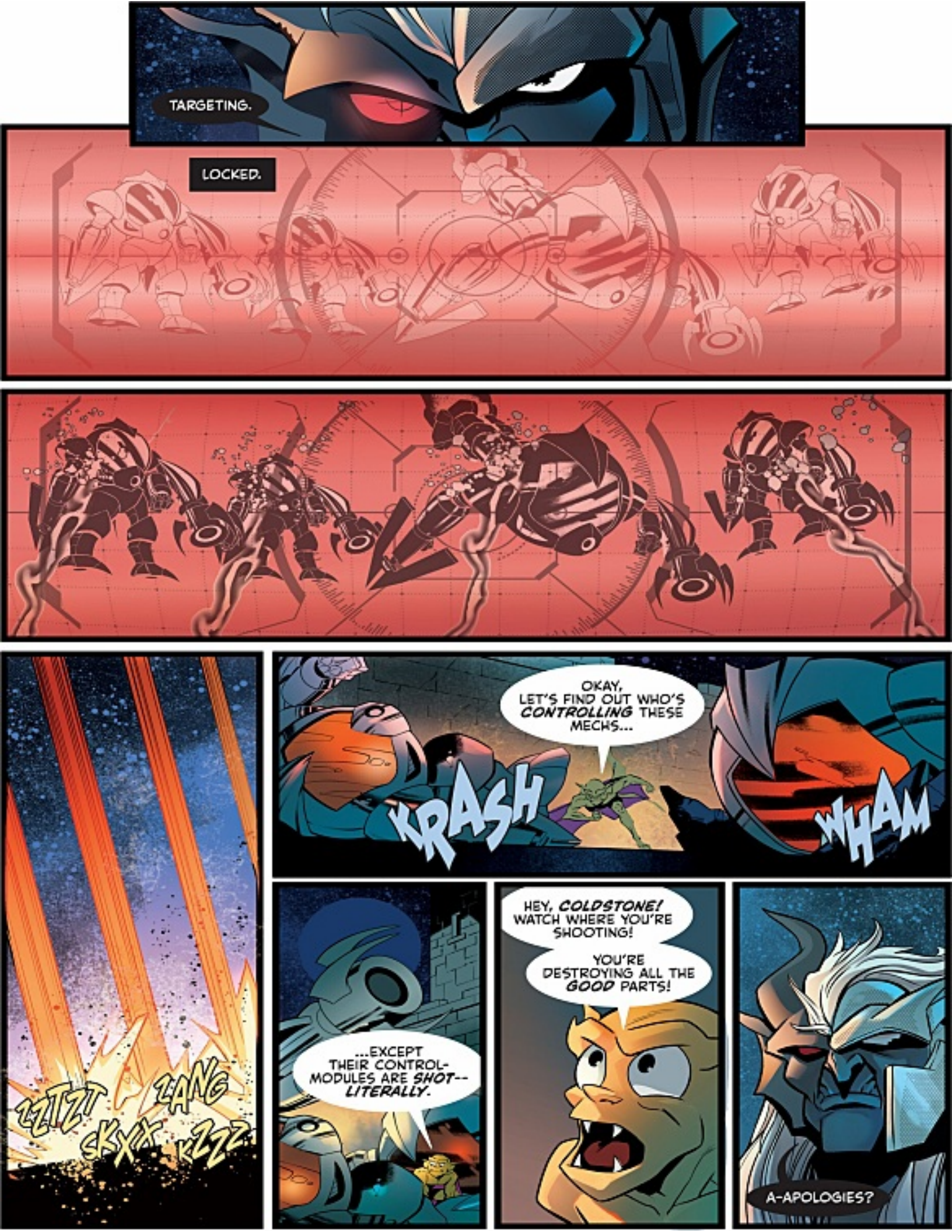
NATE COSBY

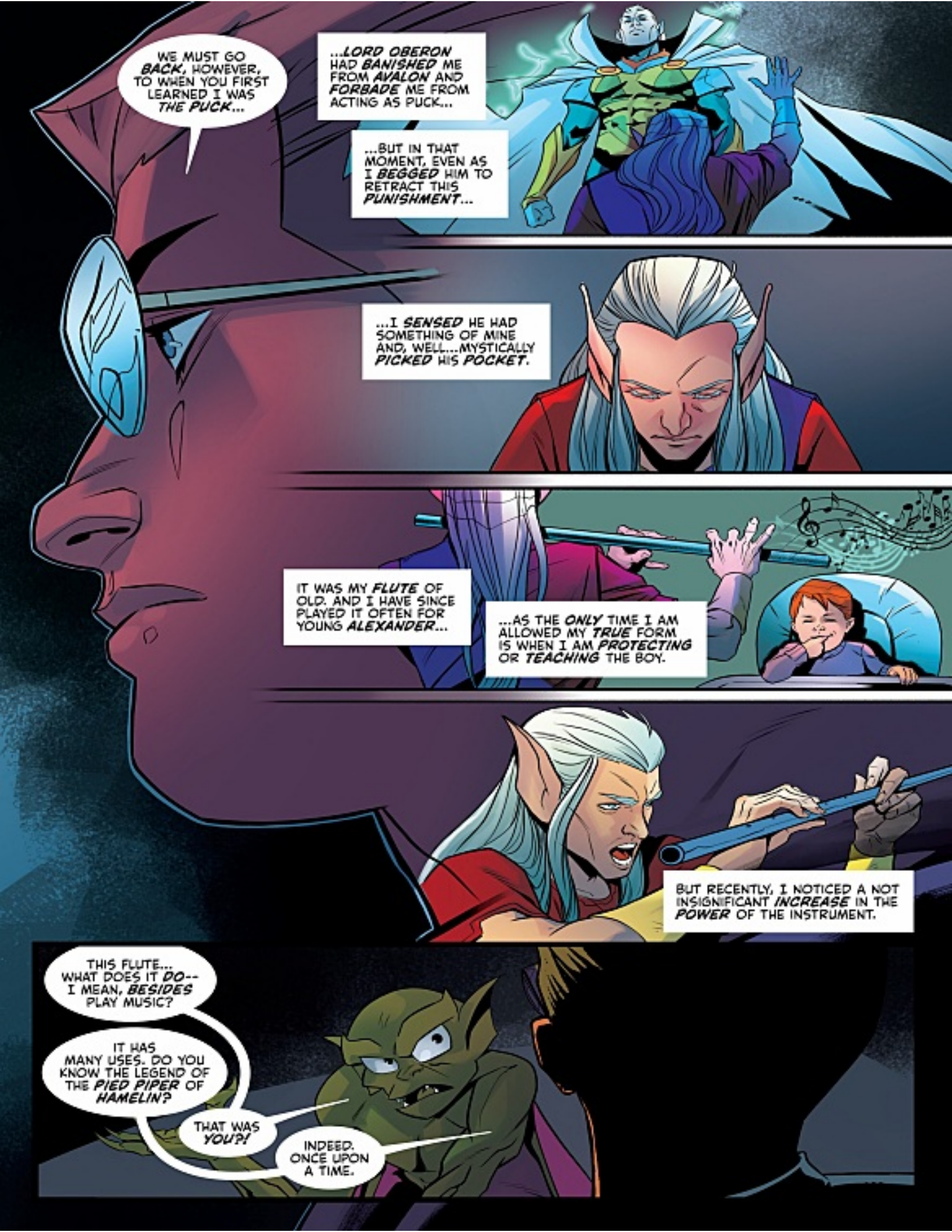
ZAK ZAK ZAK
KABOOM

KZANG
KZANG
KZANG
PROOARRR
WR-RENCH
HEY, SAVE SOME FOR US!
SMASH
WHOOSH
BOOM


TARGETING.
LOCKED.
OKAY, LET'S FIND OUT WHO'S CONTROLLING THESE MECHS...
KRASH
WHAM
LZTZT
LANG
SKXK
KZZZ
...EXCEPT THEIR CONTROL-MODULES ARE SHOT-- LITERALLY.
HEY, COLDSTONE! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE SHOOTING!
YOU'RE DESTROYING ALL THE GOOD PARTS!
A-APOLOGIES?

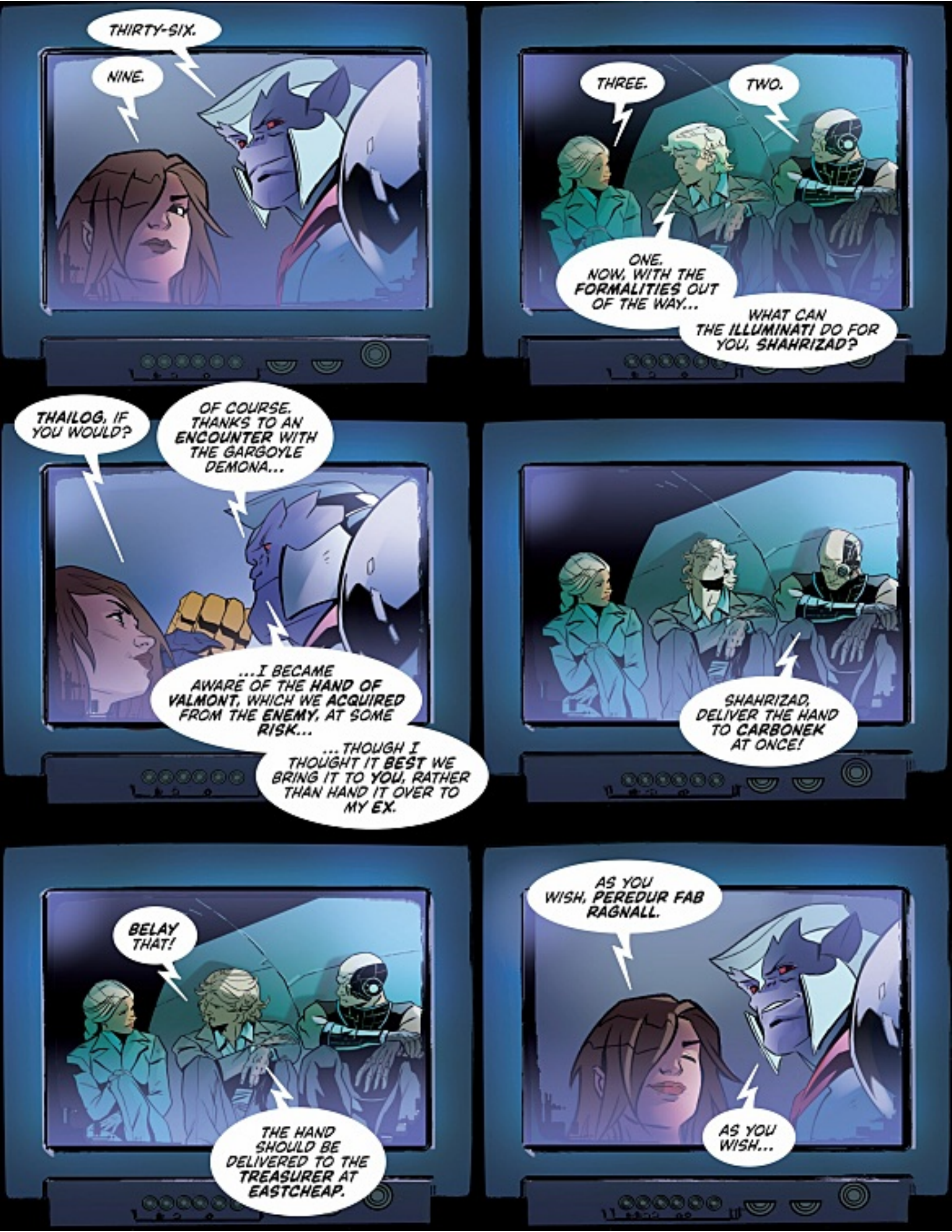
WHO...?
COULD IT BE...?
...I BELIEVE WE HAVE A PROBLEM.
DOES THIS SORT OF THING HAPPEN HERE *EVERY* NIGHT?
MORE OFTEN THAN WE WOULD LIKE.
GOLIATH...

THE ATTACK WAS A *DIVERSION*, ALLOWING *DEMONA* TO TAKE MY *FLUTE*...OR RATHER, *PUCK'S* FLUTE.
SO, THAT WAS *DEMONA* I SAW...
...BOTH *HERE*... AND IN *BUENOS AIRES*.
THE GARGOYLE WITH THE *LANCE-HEAD?*
EXACTAMENTE.
"LANCE-HEAD?" THEN IT'S *WORSE* THAN I THOUGHT.
WHAT IS WORSE?
WHY WOULD OUR *WAYWARD SISTER* WANT A WEAPON FRAGMENT AND A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?
YOU MUST *EXPLAIN* THIS.
OF COURSE...


WE MUST GO BACK, HOWEVER, TO WHEN YOU FIRST LEARNED I WAS THE PUCK...
...LORD OBERON HAD BANISHED ME FROM AVALON AND FORBADE ME FROM ACTING AS PUCK...
...BUT IN THAT MOMENT, EVEN AS I BEGGED HIM TO RETRACT THIS PUNISHMENT...
...I SENSED HE HAD SOMETHING OF MINE AND, WELL...MYSTICALLY PICKED HIS POCKET.
IT WAS MY FLUTE OF OLD. AND I HAVE SINCE PLAYED IT OFTEN FOR YOUNG ALEXANDER...
...AS THE ONLY TIME I AM ALLOWED MY TRUE FORM IS WHEN I AM PROTECTING OR TEACHING THE BOY.
BUT RECENTLY, I NOTICED A NOT INSIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE POWER OF THE INSTRUMENT.
THIS FLUTE... WHAT DOES IT DO-- I MEAN, BESIDES PLAY MUSIC?
IT HAS MANY USES. DO YOU KNOW THE LEGEND OF THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN?
THAT WAS YOU?!
INDEED. ONCE UPON A TIME.

AND YOU LET DEMONA *TAKE* IT... *WHY?!*
AS ALEXANDER HAD EARLIER *DEPARTED* THE CASTLE WITH HIS PARENTS...
...I COULD NOT USE MY MAGIC TO *STOP* HER.
WHAT HAS THIS TO DO WITH THE LANCE-HEAD WE SAW THIS DEMONA HOLDING?
MOST OF YOU KNOW OF THE *THREE KEYS TO POWER*--
--THE *EYE OF ODIN*, THE *GRIMORUM ARCANORUM* AND THE *PHOENIX GATE*...
...*AND* YOU KNOW THAT *NONE* OF THOSE *MAGICAL ITEMS* ARE CURRENTLY *VIABLE*.
BUT NATURE *ABHORS* A *VACUUM*.
SO, THE *MYSTIC ENERGY* ONCE CONTAINED WITHIN THE *ORIGINAL* VESSELS...
...WILL MOST CERTAINLY HAVE SOUGHT OUT THREE *NEW* KEYS.
WE MUST *HOPE* THE LANCE-HEAD WAS HER FIRST, AND THAT THE FLUTE WAS BUT HER *SECOND*...
...ELSE SHE HAS *ALREADY* ACHIEVED ALL *THREE*...
INCLUDING THIS *FLUTE* AND THE *LANCE-HEAD*.
THIS IS WHY AVALON SENT US TO *ARGENTINA*. TO *WITNESS* DEMONA'S *FIRST* ACQUISITION.
...AND *HUMANITY* MAY WELL BE *DOOMED*.

YOU'RE MAKING PROGRESS.
I AM.
AND IF *THAILOG* COMES THROUGH, WE'LL SOON HAVE THE *SECOND* KEY...
MANHATTAN. JULY 24, 1997.
I BELIEVE WE'RE READY TO MAKE THE *CALL*.
ALL RIGHT. BUT REMEMBER...I *OUTRANK* YOU. AND I *KNOW* THESE PEOPLE.
I SHALL HAPPILY *FOLLOW* YOUR *LEAD*, MY DEAR.


THIRTY-SIX.
NINE.
THREE.
TWO.
ONE. NOW, WITH THE FORMALITIES OUT OF THE WAY...
WHAT CAN THE ILLUMINATI DO FOR YOU, SHAHRIZAD?
THAILOG, IF YOU WOULD?
OF COURSE. THANKS TO AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE GARGOYLE DEMONA...
...I BECAME AWARE OF THE HAND OF VALMONT, WHICH WE ACQUIRED FROM THE ENEMY, AT SOME RISK...
...THOUGH I THOUGHT IT BEST WE BRING IT TO YOU, RATHER THAN HAND IT OVER TO MY EX.
SHAHRIZAD, DELIVER THE HAND TO CARBONEK AT ONCE!
BELAY THAT!
THE HAND SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE TREASURER AT EASTCHEAP.
AS YOU WISH, PEREDUR FAB RAGNALL.
AS YOU WISH...

MANHATTAN.
JULY 25, 1997.
...AND WHY DIDN'T BURNETT TELL THEM WHERE TO FIND ME?
I BELIEVE HE ATTEMPTED TO DO SO...
WHERE CAN WE FIND DEMONA?
SHE RESIDES AT... AT...AT--
IT SEEMS I CANNOT SAY.
CANNOT OR WILL NOT?
THE KNOWLEDGE IS PUCK'S, NOT OWEN BURNETT'S...
...AND PER MY PACT WITH DAVID XANATOS AND THE COMMANDS OF LORD OBERON...
...I FIND MYSELF FORBIDDEN TO SPEAK.
SO, THE CLAN SEEKS YOU ON THEIR OWN. FOR MORE REASONS THAN ONE.
WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
ANGELA IS PLANNING HER COMMITMENT CEREMONY TO BROADWAY...
...SHE STILL SEEKS RECONCILIATION WITH YOU AND, DESPITE EVERYTHING, HOPES YOU WILL ATTEND.

IT CANNOT BE. NOT NOW. NOT YET.

EASTCHEAP ISLAND.
JULY 26, 1997.
ADMIT IT, YOU HAD A MOMENT OF PANIC THERE, WHEN DUVAL WANTED THE HAND AT CARBONEK.
I'LL ADMIT I WAS THROWN...
...AS CARBONEK WASN'T EXACTLY OUR DESTINATION OF CHOICE...
...AS WE VERY MUCH NEEDED TO COME HERE.
WELL, IT ALL WORKED OUT FOR THE BEST.
WRRR WHRRR

SO... DEFINITELY A SECRET LAIR. BUT IS IT THE RIGHT SECRET LAIR?
INDEED, IT IS...
THIRTY-SIX.
NINE.
FIVE.
FALSTAFF! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, OLD FRIEND!
AND AREN'T YOU A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES, SHAHRIZAD?

THIS WAY...
...WELCOME TO THE TREASURY.
ENTER AND HAND THE HAND OVER TO THE TREASURER.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE TREASURER.
I'M ACQUISITIONS AND SECURITY. THE TREASURER IS...WITHIN.
GO ON. YOU CAN'T MISS HIM.
DO YOU TRUST THIS FALSTAFF?
I DO NOT.

SPEAK. QUICKLY.

THREE.
THIRTY-SIX.
NINE.

YOU LOOK FAMILIAR, HUMAN.
WE'VE MET BEFORE.
EH. ALL YOU HUMANS LOOK ALIKE TO ME.
SNF SNF
LITTLE COUSIN, YOU SMELL... WRONG.
EXCUSE ME?
=AHEM=
MIGHTY WYVERN, WE HAVE BROUGHT THE HAND OF VALMONT TO ADD TO YOUR TREASURY...
...THE STORY IS TOLD, THOUGH WHO CAN SAY IF IT BE TRUE...
...OF THE SORCEROR VALMONT, WHO IN HIS OVER-WEANING PRIDE...

...LOST THIS HAND TO THE GARGOYLE OF THE SWORD...
...AT THE BATTLE OF RATHVERAMOEN, ONE THOUSAND YEARS AGO.
AT TIME OF SEVERANCE, VALMONT HELD THE GRIMORUM ARCANORUM IN THIS HAND...
...AND WAS ABOUT TO CAST A SPELL...
...THUS IMBUING THE HAND WITH THE MYSTIC POTENCY THAT MAKES IT SO VALUABLE...

TO THINK I WAS ABLE TO TAKE THIS RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER THE DRAGON'S RATHER MASSIVE NOSE...
...SHARI, YOUR ABILITIES NEVER CEASE TO AMAZE...
IT'S NOT ONLY MY ABILITIES. IT'S THE DRAGON'S PREJUDICES, AS WELL...
HE'S PLACED AN INCANTATION ON THAT TREASURE. ONE THAT DRAWS HIS SUBSTANTIAL IRE...
...SHOULD ANY HUMAN LAY BUT A FINGER UPON EVEN A SINGLE COIN.
A STONE-FLESH THIEF, THAT IS A GARGATE SUCH AS HE OR YOU, DOES NOT TRIGGER HIS ATTENTION.
AND HENCE WE EXCHANGE ONE DUBIOUS PRIZE FOR AN ITEM OF MUCH GREATER VALUE TO OUR CAUSE.
MANHATTAN. JULY 31, 1997.
ONE STICK FOR ONE SHARE OF NIGHTSTONE STOCK.
AND EVERYBODY'S HAPPY.
NOW THAT YOU HAVE BOTH PIECES, WILL YOU REPAIR THE LANCE?
NOT YET. THE RESULTING POWER-SURGE COULD TIP OUR HAND.
NO, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE FINAL KEY...
...BUT NO HURRY. OUR TIME WILL COME...

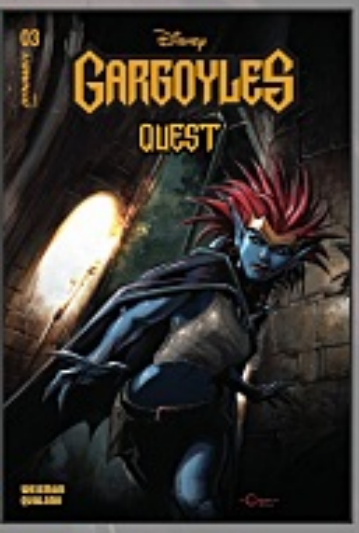
MANHATTAN.
SEPTEMBER 26, 1997.
SO, IS IT *OFFICIAL*? HAVE YOU BEEN *REINSTATED*?
MAZA. DETECTIVE SECOND CLASS. TWENTY-THIRD PRECINCT.
BACK ON THE JOB.
ANY LUCK FINDING *DEMONA* OR THE *KEYS*?
NO. YOU?
NO.
BUT THAT'S *OKAY*. WE'RE IN THIS *HUNT* FOR THE *LONG* HAUL...

MANHATTAN.
OCTOBER 16, 1997.
MANHATTAN.
OCTOBER 31, 1997.
MANHATTAN.
NOVEMBER 11, 1997.
MANHATTAN.
NOVEMBER 17, 1997.

GENEVA.
NOVEMBER 18, 1997.
...I HAVE SIX HUNDRED. DO I HEAR SIX-FIFTY?
NINE HUNDRED.
16
NINE HUNDRED! DO I HEAR NINE-FIFTY?
ANYONE? ANYONE?
THAT'S NINE HUNDRED, GOING ONCE...NINE HUNDRED, GOING TWICE...GOING THREE TIMES...
...AND SOLD!!
16
CLEOPATRA'S NECKLACE IS SOLD TO BUYER SIXTEEN FOR NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS!

MANHATTAN.
NOVEMBER 19, 1997.
AND JUST LIKE *THAT*, I HAVE THEM...
...THE *THREE KEYS TO POWER*.
NOW, THE *FUN* BEGINS...
NEXT:
THE FUN.

COVER GALLERY



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CLAYTON CRAIN

COVER B
Art by **JAE LEE**
Color by **JUNE CHUNG**

COVER C
Art by
DREW MOSS

COVER D
METAL PREMIUM
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COVER E
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COVER F
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